

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 07494 311509Z

41

ACTION OFA-01

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 OES-05 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 711

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

UNCLAS MOSCOW 7494

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TBIO, EFIS, OCON, UR, US

SUBJ: DISCUSSION OF WHALING AND FISHING PROBLEMS WITH
SOVIET MINISTER OF FISHERIES

DEPARTMENT PASS: EPA FOR MR. TRAIN, CEO FOR DR. TALBOT,
NOAAFOR MR. D. WALLACE AND DR. W. ARON, NATIONAL MARINE
FISHERIES SERVICE FOR MR. SCHONING

1. DR. WHITE AND DR. CLINGAN MET WITH A.A. ISHKOV, MINISTER
OF FISHERIES, MAY THIRTY TO DISCUSS WHALING AND FISHING MATTERS.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 07494 311509Z

2. DR. WHITE MENTIONED THAT PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS CONCERNING THE MANAGEMENT OF WHALING. HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT A SOLUTION ACCEPTABLE TO THE US ON ONE SIDE AND JAPAN AND THE USSR ON THE OTHER COULD BE REACHED AT THE FORTHCOMING IWC MEETING IN LONDON. HE SAID THAT PROPOSAL OF AUSTRALIA FOR SELECTIVE MORATORIUM WHEN SPECIES FALLS BELOW MSY PROVIDED AN ACCEPTABLE BASIS FOR AGREEMENT, PROVIDED THAT SUCH MORATORIUM WAS EFFECTIVE WHEN MSY WAS EXCEEDED BY NO MORE THAN 10 PERCENT. DR. WHITE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE USSR GOVERNMENT WOULD SUPPORT SUCH A POSITION AT THE FORTHCOMING JUNE MEETING.

3. MINISTER ISHKOV EXPRESSED REGRET THAT THERE HAS BEEN A DISAGREEMENT. HE STATED THAT THE US POSITION IN THE PAST WAS NOT "SCIENTIFIC." HE HOPED THAT AGREEMENT WOULD BE REACHED IN THE FUTURE. ISHKOV AGREED THAT THE AUSTRALIAN PROPOSAL WILL BECOME THE BASIS FOR NEGOTIATION IN LONDON. HE STRESSED THAT THE USSR WILL FOLLOW THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON PERCENTAGE DEVIATION FROM MSY. HE STATED THAT IT WILL BE NECESSARY IN FUTURE YEARS TO CURTAIL THE USE OF BIG WHALING FLEETS, BUT THAT WHALING WILL CONTINUE.

4. DR. CLINGAN REVIEWED HISTORY OF DISCONTINUED BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS CONCERNING CLOSURE, BOTH IN AREA AND TIME OF FISHING FOR CERTAIN STOCKS IN THE BERING SEA, NORTHERN PACIFIC AND WEST COAST. HE REMINDED MINISTER ISHKOV THAT TALKS WILL RESUME JULY NINE AND ONLY NINE DAYS HAVE BEEN ALLOWED FOR COMPLETION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. HE POINTED OUT THAT US IS IN A DIFFICULT POSITION, HAVING EXTENDED THE OLD AGREEMENT. DR. CLINGAN STATED THAT, IF AGREEMENT CAN NOT BE REACHED THIS TIME, CONGRESS MAY ACT. DR. CLINGAN ALSO DISCUSSED THE STATISTICS ISSUE.

5. ISHKOV AGREED THAT STATISTICS SHOULD BE BROUGHT IN LINE AND PROMISED TO GIVE INSTRUCTIONS TO NEGOTIATORS AT THE FORTHCOMING NEGOTIATIONS TO MOVE TOWARD A SUITABLE AGREEMENT. HE POINTED OUT THAT IT MAY BE ADVISABLE TO EXPAND NEGOTIATIONS FROM BILATERAL TO REGIONAL. HE STATED THAT BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES HAD MADE CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS, THAT MUCH MORE IS KNOWN NOW ABOUT THE FISH AND THE INTERRELATIONSHIPS

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 MOSCOW 07494 311509Z

BETWEEN VARIOUS SPECIES. HE FEELS THAT AS A RESULT OF THIS SCIENTIFIC GUIDELINES COULD BE FOLLOWED IN REACHING AN AGREEMENT.

6. WHILE NOT FORTHCOMING, ISHKOV APPEARED TO WANT TO KEEP THE DOOR OPENED ON THE SUBJECTS. THERE IS LITTLE QUESTION THAT THE SOVIETS ARE DETERMINED TO GAIN AS MUCH TIME AS POSSIBLE IN A SITUATION WHICH IS NOT EASY FOR THEM.

7. FOR SULLIVAN: ISHKOV INSTRUCTING KAMENTSEV TO CONTACT
YOU AT ICNAF FOR PRELIMINARY BILATERAL TALKS. YOU ARE REQUESTED
TO SEE WHAT CAN BE RESOLVED.

8. FOR MOORE: KOVALEV AND ROMANOV WANT TO KNOW WHO WILL
ACCOMPANY YOU TO MOSCOW FROM THE LOS TEAM. PLEASE ADVISE
EMBASSY MOSCOW.
STOESSEL

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